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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 7 November 1990, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/13 by which, inter alia, it took note of the report of the Secretary-General on cooperation between the United Nations and the Organization of African Unity (OAU) (A/45/364 and Add.1) and of his efforts to strengthen this cooperation. It also noted with appreciation the increasing and continued participation of OAU in the work of the United Nations and the specialized agencies and its constructive contribution to that work, commended the continued efforts of OAU to promote multilateral cooperation among African States and requested the United Nations system to continue to lend its support.

2. By the same resolution, the General Assembly requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations to take the necessary measures to strengthen cooperation at the political, economic, cultural and administrative levels between the United Nations and OAU. It urged all Member States and regional and international organizations, in particular those of the United Nations system, to continue to extend maximum support to those projects and programmes undertaken by African countries within the framework of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Strategy for the Economic Development of Africa (A/S-11/14, annex I) and the Final Act of Lagos (A/S-11/14, annex II) and Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 (A/40/666, annex I, Declaration AHG/Decl.1 (XXI), annex). The General Assembly also requested the Secretary-General and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to continue to extend their support and cooperation through the Secretary-General of OAU to member States of that organization in their efforts to enhance African economic integration by the establishment of an African economic community, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of OAU (A/45/482, annex II and A/42/699, annex II).

II. CONSULTATIONS AND EXCHANGE OF INFORMATION

3. During the Second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, held in Paris from 4 to 7 September 1990, the Secretary-General met with President Yoweri Kaguta Museveni of Uganda, in the latter's capacity as Chairman of OAU. Among other things, they exchanged views on the situation in Liberia and on the question of Western Sahara. President Museveni and the Secretary-General met again in New York on 1 October 1990 during the forty-fifth session of the General Assembly and at Lisbon on 31 May 1991 at the signing of the peace accords in Angola. During these meetings they discussed various African questions of mutual concern.

4. On 10 October 1990, President Museveni addressed the General Assembly at its forty-fifth session (see A/45/PV.15).

5. During the period under review, the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the Chairman of OAU, acting within the framework of General Assembly resolution 44/88 of 11 December 1989 and in the exercise of their good offices, continued their efforts for a solution to the question of

Western Sahara. The Secretary-General continued his discussion on the question of Western Sahara and other African issues of priority concern with the outgoing and incoming Chairmen of OAU, namely President Museveni of Uganda and President Ibrahim Badamasi Babangida of Nigeria, at the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU held at Abuja, Nigeria, from 3 to 5 June 1991.

6. The Secretary-General also met with Mr. Salim Ahmed Salim, Secretary-General of OAU during the OAU Summit. They discussed issues of mutual interest to the two organizations, including the question of Western Sahara and the peace agreement in Angola. During an earlier meeting in New York on 9 October 1990, the two Secretaries-General signed an agreement that replaced the 1965 agreement on cooperation between the United Nations system and OAU.

7. During the period under review, following preparatory and consultative meetings between representatives of the secretariats of the United Nations and OAU, headed by the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship and the Assistant Secretary-General of OAU for Economic Development and Cooperation, respectively, a high-level meeting between the secretariats of the two organizations was held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1991 (see addendum to the present report). The meeting, which was held pursuant to paragraph 19 of General Assembly resolution 45/13, evaluated the progress achieved in the implementation of the proposals and recommendations agreed upon at Addis Ababa in April 1990 on cooperation between the two organizations in 1990/91, and adopted new measures for their effective implementation.

III. COOPERATION WITH REGARD TO THE SITUATION IN SOUTHERN AFRICA

A. Department of Political and Security Council Affairs of the Secretariat

8. The Special Committee against Apartheid continued to attach particular attention to cooperation and coordination with OAU on political matters concerning the issue of apartheid in South Africa. In this connection, the Chairman or representatives of the Special Committee attended the meetings organized by OAU.

B. United Nations Development Programme

9. The United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to support the national liberation movements recognized by OAU. UNDP support was mainly to fund fellowship programmes for the African National Congress of South Africa (ANC), the Pan Africanist Congress of Azania (PAC) and carry-over programmes in civil aviation, radio broadcasting, and other related fields for Namibian nationals.

C. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

10. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) continued to provide technical assistance to the liberation movements recognized by OAU. In particular, UNCHS (Habitat) elaborated the preparatory phase of a project for the resettlement of South African refugees and returnees and is in the process of seeking the collaboration of OAU to raise part of the funds needed for the implementation of the project from the Action for Resisting Invasion, Colonialism and Apartheid (AFRICA) Fund Committee.

D. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

11. During the period under review, on the basis of the policy sponsored jointly by OAU and the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), resettlement places for South African refugees were obtained in other African countries apart from those of first asylum (normally the front-line States). The policy continued to assure safe asylum to several refugees whose lives would otherwise have been threatened.

E. International Labour Organisation

12. Implementation of the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Declaration against Apartheid, which is updated regularly, continued to be a major preoccupation of the organization, including follow-up on the actions required on the part of employers' and workers' organizations throughout the world. An evaluation team consulted with the OAU secretariat on the matter during the period under review. A post-apartheid programme was drawn up by ILO with a special financial allocation from its regular budget for technical cooperation.

13. With regard to Namibia, provision was made for the appointment of a full-time Special Adviser based in the office of the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) at Windhoek with a view to developing potential areas of technical cooperation activities. A special regular budget for technical cooperation fund was also allocated for this purpose.

F. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

14. The United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO) organized, in June 1991 at Banjul, a workshop on human rights issues for a post-apartheid South Africa in cooperation with the African Commission of Human and People's Rights.

G. World Health Organization

15. In accordance with the relevant decisions of the World Health Assembly, the World Health Organization (WHO) collaborated closely with the countries concerned in the liberation struggle in southern Africa, with OAU and with various agencies and organizations of the United Nations system to provide, to the fullest extent possible, health care services required by the affected populations of the front-line States, Lesotho and Swaziland.

IV. COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

A. Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation

16. During the period under review, the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation was involved in the implementation of the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development; the preparation of the Secretary-General's report on its review and final appraisal; the adoption by the Committee for Programme and Coordination, within the framework of the 1992-1997 medium-term plan, of the programme entitled "Critical economic situation in Africa"; and the elaboration of subsequent budget proposals for 1992-1993 and of the system-wide plan of action for Africa requested by the Committee for Programme and Coordination.

17. In October 1990, the Director-General presided over a joint meeting held in New York between representatives of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and OAU.

B. Department of International Economic and Social Affairs of the Secretariat

18. The Department of International Economic and Social Affairs carried out research and analysis in a number of areas of use to the work of OAU and its member countries. As part of its work on the World Econometric Model of Project Link, the Department maintained econometric models of different African countries for analysing their economic outlook and evolution of economic policies.

19. In the area of population, the Department produced every two years the World Population Monitoring Report, which analysed current population trends and policies of all the countries and regions of the world, including member States of OAU. The Department included the activities carried out by OAU in its biennial report on the work of intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations in the area of population.

20. The Statistical Office of the Department will cooperate in the efforts to implement the Addis Ababa Plan of Action for Statistical Development in Africa in the 1990s, which was recommended by the Conference of African Planners, Statisticians and Demographers and adopted by the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) Conference of Ministers in May 1990. In this regard, meetings were held with the Chief of the Statistics Division of the ECA and a consultant engaged by the Commission.

21. The Department made available to the OAU secretariat statistics of individual member States and regional groupings of member States in various areas such as external trade, industry, national accounts, population and others. In addition, technical support continued to be provided to technical cooperation projects in OAU member countries in the field of statistics and statistical data processing through the Department of Technical Cooperation for Development.

22. Under its mandate on programme coordination, the Department, together with the Office of the Director-General for Development and International Economic Cooperation and the Economic Commission for Africa is preparing the United Nations system-wide Plan of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development for submission to the United Nations Committee for Programme and Coordination at its thirty-second session in 1992. The Plan of Action will serve as a framework for cooperation between the African region and the rest of the international community in undertaking efforts towards the economic recovery and development of Africa.

C. Centre for Science and Technology for Development of the Secretariat

23. Based on recommendations of a regional meeting on the end-of-decade review of the implementation of the Vienna Programme of Action which took place in Brazzaville in November 1988 with the participation of OAU, the Centre for Science and Technology for Development continued to implement pilot studies in the United Republic of Tanzania, Uganda, Togo and Cape Verde on the building of an endogenous capacity in science and technology, and the capacity to take independent decisions to acquire, assess, develop and effectively manage technologies.

24. The purpose of these studies was to introduce a new policy approach, as well as operational mechanism and decision-making process to enhance the development and capacity of science and technology, namely: to better relate science and technology to the socio-economic priority needs of each country; to make better use of the locally available scientific and technological expertise and structures; to develop a portfolio of various institutional legislative and operation-oriented initiatives; and to mobilize additional local and external resources leading to a country-driven coalition of resources and more coherent and consistent support to science and technology. As a part of the process-orientation, all studies would be based on a series of national policy dialogues among the actors of socio-economic development,

favouring the integration of science and technology into macro-economic development and consensus building.

25. In addition, the Centre held two workshops on the application of new and traditional materials for African development and on the application of biotechnology for food security in Africa, in the context of the Centre's Advanced Technology Assessment System programme.

26. The Advisory Committee on Science and Technology for Development has decided to hold its next annual meeting (May 1992) in Burundi and to focus on the role of science and technology in least developed countries in its substantive work, for which a case study on Burundi will be prepared.

D. United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations

27. With respect to activities oriented towards the promotion of multilateral cooperation among African countries, the nature and scope of contribution of the United Nations Centre on Transnational Corporations depended primarily on requests for assistance in the context of established instruments and institutional frameworks for such cooperation. In this regard, the CTC technical assistance programme for the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States (PTA) has resulted in the adoption of the PTA Charter on Multinational Industrial Enterprises. The Charter was signed by 14 of the 18 PTA States on 23 November 1990, and will enter into force after it has been ratified by a specific number of States. The Centre is to provide further assistance in the preparation and adoption of Protocols under this Charter. The Centre on Transnational Corporations also continued to provide technical assistance to the PTA States in the harmonization of their law and regulations on direct foreign investment.

28. With regard to environment and development, the Centre is developing technical assistance programmes on the integration of environmental planning and protection in investment projects in developing countries, including assistance in the adoption of laws and regulations, in specific negotiations and in manpower development. These and other programmes of the Centre are open to requests for technical assistance from African countries on an individual or subregional basis.

E. United Nations Conference on Trade and Development

29. In the area of technology transfer and development, the assistance of the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD) to African countries coincided with the priority areas spelt out by OAU. In particular, as part of the preparation for the Second United Nations Conference on Least Developed Countries, UNCTAD carried out an assessment of major technological problems and policy issues of least developed countries, of which half were members of OAU. In the light of the findings of this study, as well as the outcome of the Conference, UNCTAD prepared a regional project to assist African least developed countries.

30. In the area of commodities, the Group of Experts on African Commodities, which was established by the United Nations Secretary-General pursuant to General Assembly resolution 43/12 of 25 October 1988, was appointed at the request of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU. The OAU secretariat was, therefore, very closely involved in the workings of the Group of Experts and in the preparation of the final report. It cooperated with the UNCTAD secretariat in organizing meetings in Addis Ababa and supported the funding of the Group's activities through UNDP.

31. The UNCTAD secretariat actively participated in and made substantive contributions to the ministerial meetings of OAU and to the preparatory meetings leading to conferences of OAU Heads of State and Government. Also, the UNCTAD secretariat has continued to contribute actively to the work of the United Nations Steering Committee and its subsidiary body, the Inter-Agency Task Force on the implementation of UNPAAERD.

32. With regard to the question of trade, the objectives of the African multilateral trade negotiations project (RAF/87/157) were to establish, develop and strengthen the national negotiating capacities and infrastructure of African countries participating in the Uruguay Round of multilateral trade negotiations. So far, the UNCTAD secretariat has taken concrete measures to fulfil the aforementioned objectives, in close cooperation with the OAU secretariat. National and regional seminars, roundtables and several brainstorming sessions at which OAU was represented were organized at the request of African Governments.

33. UNCTAD has continued to contribute to the work undertaken by the OAU Permanent Steering Committee on the elaboration of a draft treaty establishing the African economic community. Following the adoption of the draft Treaty by the OAU Ad Hoc Committee of the Whole in August 1990, preliminary contacts were established with OAU and UNDP concerning the possibility of the participation of UNCTAD in the provision of technical assistance in this area.

F. United Nations Development Programme

34. During 1990, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) continued to provide support to the OAU secretariat and to member States of the organization. In particular, the following activities were undertaken to promote cooperation:

(a) Two full-scale OAU projects were approved and signed by UNDP for a total of $US 6.1 million. These projects are geared towards the strengthening of the administrative and management capacity of OAU secretariat and the establishment of the African economic community;

(b) UNDP provided support for a regional project to assist OAU member States in producing livestock vaccines locally;

(c) UNDP funded some of the activities commemorating the tenth anniversary of the Lagos Plan of Action, held in Lagos in December 1990. Among the themes discussed were economic integration of the continent and intra-African cooperation in transport;

(d) A joint OAU/UNDP cooperation meeting was held in New York in October 1990 with the participation of the OAU Secretary-General and his senior management staff. The meeting, inter alia, reviewed the various activities related to cooperation and harmonization of the development strategy of OAU and the regional programme of UNDP.

G. United Nations Environment Programme

35. During the period under review, OAU and the United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP) intensified their efforts to support major African initiatives in the field of environment and sustainable development. OAU, UNEP and ECA continued to run and manage the secretariat of the African Ministerial Conference on the Environment (AMCEN) which is implementing the regional programme of action on the African environment, whose objective is to halt and reverse the degradation of the African environment and natural resource base. Under the programme, African institutions and experts cooperate through specialized networks, committees and a programme of eco-development pilot projects.

36. Other significant joint regional cooperative activities included the convening of the OAU-sponsored Pan African Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held at Bamako in January 1991, and the African Regional Preparatory Conference on the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED), held at Cairo in July 1991, and preparations for the establishment of the African economic community whose protocol on the environment was receiving full support from UNEP.

37. Within the framework of regular OAU and UNEP programmes, efforts were intensified to assist member countries in important areas, including the following: strengthening of environmental machinery and legislation; formulation of environmental action plans, strategies and policies; integration of environmental considerations into national development programmes; implementation of environmental education and training programmes; promotion of public awareness programmes, strengthening the environmental monitoring and assessment capabilities of member countries; implementation of regional seas programmes and the promotion of international agreements in the area of shared water resources.

38. Other highlights during the period under review included the completion of arrangements for the commemoration of 1991 as African Year of the Environment; preparation for the African convention on hazardous and toxic wastes held at Bamako; facilitating the participation of African countries in global negotiations on conventions and international agreements with regard to biodiversity, climate change and the depletion of the ozone layer

39. Arrangements are currently under way to finalize a special memorandum of cooperation agreement by which UNEP would strengthen the sections of OAU that deal with environmental issues to enable the organization to participate and play a more effective role in this decade, particularly when the African economic community is fully operational. Under the agreement, efforts would be specially intensified to further strengthen the environmental management programmes and policies of OAU member countries.

H. United Nations Population Fund

40. At its forty-sixth ordinary session, held at Addis Ababa in July 1987, the Council of Ministers of OAU authorized the OAU Secretary-General to seek financial and technical assistance from donor agencies to, inter alia, assist member States in establishing national population commissions; establish technical cooperation relations with African regional and subregional organizations dealing with population and development problems, and convene the first meeting of the OAU population commission. Since that meeting, an Interdepartmental Task Force on Population has been established within the OAU secretariat and the rules of procedure for the proposed population commission have been completed.

41. OAU has submitted to the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) a draft protocol which will establish a framework for further cooperation between the two organizations. The draft protocol is now undergoing review. In early 1991, UNFPA officially designated the UNFPA Country Director for Ethiopia to serve as representative liaison officer with OAU in order to promote increased and more timely collaboration between UNFPA and OAU.

42. From 1983 to 1987, UNFPA funded the project on "Strengthening of Population, Labour and Development Activities in the OAU Secretariat" (RAF/84/P08). "OAU Population and Development Policy", the follow-up project (RAF/89/P19) is being reviewed by OAU and UNFPA for UNFPA funding consideration. The main thrust of the project is to raise the level of awareness of African Governments to the role of population in the development process, including the need to formulate comprehensive population policies and to design appropriate implementation strategies. Under the project, a Population and Development Unit will be established within the OAU secretariat. The Unit will function as the central coordinating unit for all secretariat population activities, including policy analysis, workshops and seminars for government planners and OAU secretariat staff, dissemination of information on population and development issues. The Unit will also provide technical support to the proposed OAU population commission in its efforts to initiate an agenda for population and Development for adoption and implementation by the OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government.

43. The project also calls for the establishment of a population commission to ensure the efficient coordination, sensitization and cooperation among governmental and non-governmental organizations dealing with population matters in Africa; to undertake studies and provide the best technical knowledge and advice to the OAU Steering Committee on population trends and

issues for future policy decisions to be taken by the population commission and the member States; and to promote and provide the exchange and dissemination of information in the field of population and socio-economic development.

44. UNFPA provided funding for seven participants to the OAU-sponsored Pan-African Conference on Environment and Sustainable Development, held at Bamako from 23 to 30 January 1991. The UNFPA Country Director for Mali attended the Conference on behalf of UNFPA. The UNFPA Country Director for Nigeria represented UNFPA at the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, held at Abuja, Nigeria, from 3 to 5 June 1991.

45. At both the headquarters and field levels, UNFPA has collaborated with OAU within the context of UNPAAERD.

I. United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

46. The United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat) independently, and in collaboration with the Government of Finland, continued to assist several member States of OAU engaged in the formulation and implementation of national shelter strategies within the framework of the Global Strategy for Shelter to the Year 2000 as adopted by the General Assembly in its resolution 43/181 of 20 December 1988. In this connection, UNCHS (Habitat) organized a number of subregional global strategy for shelter seminars: at Nairobi for East African countries in January/February 1990; at Harare for southern African countries in August 1990; at Ougadougou for Francophone African countries in September 1990; and in Ghana for Anglophone West African countries in October 1990. Many requests for follow-up technical assistance have been received. Discussions have also been held with OAU aimed at seeking its support to mobilize resources towards expanding this effort.

47. Pursuant to paragraph 10 of General Assembly resolution 44/101 of 11 December 1989, three projects were formulated under the umbrella of the National Shelter Strategy for Namibia from which Namibian returnees, among others, were expected to derive considerable benefit. The relevant project documents have been submitted to the Government of Namibia and UNDP for final endorsement and funding.

48. UNCHS (Habitat) has also undertaken several activities in promoting standards and specifications for local building materials and technologies in the African region. It has organized a number of workshops and produced two publications, namely: Cooperation in the African Region on Technologies and Standards for Local Building Materials; and Journal of the Network of African Countries on Local Building Materials and Technologies.

49. Regarding future areas of cooperation, UNCHS (Habitat) remained committed to its previously proposed programme of collaboration with OAU in dealing with the problems of long-term refugee settlements, in preparing a study on ways

and means of linking African countries by rail within the framework of the proposed African economic community.

J. Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator

50. During the period under review, the Office of the United Nations Disaster Relief Coordinator (UNDRO) provided OAU with information on relief operations undertaken in favour of the following OAU member States stricken by natural disasters or affected by other emergencies: Angola, Liberia, Malawi, Mozambique, Somalia, the Sudan and the United Republic of Tanzania. UNDRO assisted the Ethiopian Relief and Rehabilitation Commission in constructing an aircraft maintenance hangar that will be used by all humanitarian organizations engaged in emergency transport operations in the country. In addition, UNDRO provided relief assistance to thousands of Egyptian nationals displaced following the Iraq/Kuwait crisis in August 1990. In connection with the same crisis, a vast number of nationals from other African countries received relief aid and assistance in repatriating to their respective countries. This was coordinated by UNDRO within the framework of the Regional Humanitarian Plan of Action which was established to assist displaced persons from Iraq and Kuwait. The repatriation was undertaken by the International Organization of Migration which intervened at the request of UNDRO.

51. UNDRO maintained contacts with OAU regarding the implementation of the Plan of Action adopted by OAU in 1990 to deal with disasters in Africa. To this end, it was agreed during the inter-agency meeting held at Geneva in April 1990 that UNDRO would provide a consultant to assist in the organization of the regional conference on disaster in Africa. Within the same framework, there were ongoing discussions for the establishment of a joint OAU/UNDRO "network" of subregional disaster management centres. In addition, UNDRO expanded its assistance and cooperation with a number of African countries in the field of disaster preparedness and prevention. An international conference on emergencies was organized in Cairo in September 1990 in which several African countries participated. Algeria, Egypt, the Libyan Arab Jamahiriya, Morocco and Tunisia actively participated in a regional project aimed at mitigating the effects of earthquakes in the countries bordering the Mediterranean, sponsored by UNDRO and other United Nations agencies and programmes.

52. UNDRO has initiated disaster preparedness activities in Lesotho, Malawi and Zimbabwe to strengthen their national disaster management capabilities. Other ongoing or planned projects on disaster preparedness and prevention include those in Algeria, Djibouti, Egypt, Madagascar, Tunisia and the United Republic of Tanzania.

53. UNDRO attended the meeting of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and OAU, held at Addis Ababa in April 1991 to review the progress of cooperation between the two organizations. During the meeting, emphasis was placed on cooperation in disaster relief and disaster mitigation matters. It was recommended that a Memorandum of Understanding be drawn up to strengthen cooperation between UNDRO and OAU in this respect.

54. It was agreed that the Disaster Management Training Programme, launched jointly by UNDRO and UNDP, would be implemented in Africa, in close cooperation with OAU. Primarily intended to improve capabilities in disaster management of the United Nations system, the programme was also aimed at linking United Nations efforts with development to enable planners at the national level to assess their country's status with regard to disaster management. The programme will be open to national counterparts who will be invited to participate actively in training activities.

K. Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees

55. During the period under review, the Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) maintained and intensified its cooperation with OAU in various fields of humanitarian assistance for refugees and returnees in Africa. This relationship was governed by the terms of the UNHCR/OAU Agreement of Cooperation signed on 13 June 1969 and the various other initiatives within the United Nations and OAU, among others. The main areas of cooperation and collaboration between UNHCR and OAU during the period were as follows:

(a) UNHCR participated in the work of the OAU Commission of Fifteen on Refugee Matters and that of its Coordinating Committee for the Liberation of Africa to promote an environment with better legal protection for the refugees and returnees and displaced persons in Africa.

(b) The UNHCR representative in Addis Ababa participated as an observer in the activities and discussions of OAU concerning refugee issues and problems. Similarly, OAU continued to participate as an observer in the deliberations of the Executive Committee of the High Commissioner's Programme. UNHCR and the OAU secretariat continued to work together to ensure that the Africa Refugee Day was properly celebrated on 20 June 1990.

(c) Following the Dar es Salaam Declaration in February 1991, which entrusted both UNHCR and OAU with the responsibility of drawing up a plan of action leading to durable solutions for Rwandese refugees, a joint OAU/UNHCR consultative meeting was held at Geneva in May 1991 with the participation of UNDP. The plan of action will take into account the impact of the return of refugees on the socio-economic infrastructure of the country of origin as well as the needs for local integration and naturalization of those who remain in their countries of residence. The meeting decided to establish joint UNHCR/OAU task forces both in Addis Ababa and Geneva to facilitate and accelerate the development of a coordinated and integrated plan of action. It further agreed to establish in each of the countries concerned a national committee entrusted with ensuring the implementation of the preparatory activities at the country level. Meetings of the national committees will be convened at the initiative of OAU and/or UNHCR and will be presided over by representatives of national Governments.

(d) UNHCR and OAU held further consultations in Addis Ababa and Geneva to review the 1969 cooperation agreement governing the relationship between the two bodies in order to further intensify the existing areas of cooperation.

L. World Food Council

56. A recent initiative of the World Food Council (WFC) which received the full support of OAU was the proposal made by WFC ministers in 1990 at Bangkok to renew the Green Revolution, which would bring about major advances in the development, transfer and application of productivity, enhancing agricultural

technology in developing countries in general, and in Africa in particular, to meet the food needs of their growing populations in the 1990s and in early twenty-first century.

57. Following that proposal, the Council worked closely with OAU, which made a valuable contribution to the WFC interregional consultation held at Cairo in April 1991. The consultation considered the need for a new Green Revolution that would take into account the limitations of the first Green Revolution, which had very positive results in a number of Asian countries but so far has not affected African production in a significant way.

58. The findings of that consultation were subsequently adopted at the WFC seventeenth ministerial session held in Denmark. The ministers, inter alia, called upon Governments, donors and international research institutions, in particular the International Agricultural Research Centres of the Consultative Group on International Agricultural Research, to support programmes that would provide resources to strengthen, on a sustainable basis, agricultural research, especially in the developing countries. Specifically, the ministers called upon multilateral financial and development institutions and bilateral donors to provide increased and long-term support to agricultural research and technology, with commitments for periods of some 15 to 20 years replacing current projects of much shorter duration.

59. It was within this context that the Council received the offer of the Government of Kenya to host the Council's eighteenth ministerial session in 1992, and help focus the world's attention to the grim prospects of Africa's economic development.

M. World Food Programme

60. The World Food Programme (WFP) approved projects worth more than $US 450 million in 1990 in support of development and emergency operations in OAU member States. Efforts were made to reduce the burden of project implementation by African countries, many of which are least developed countries, by providing additional support to meet the costs of internal transport, storage and handling of commodities supplied by WFP. In view of the financial constraints faced by most African countries, increased amounts of non-food items were also provided to ensure efficient implementation of projects executed through the assistance of WFP.

61. Development assistance provided by WFP was concentrated on the priority areas identified by OAU. Assistance to human resources development, which totalled $US 112 million, supported 12 projects that included school feeding at the primary and secondary level, technical and vocational training and institutional feeding in hospitals and social centres. In remote areas where markets are non-existent or where the availability of food is unpredictable, food rations provided to teachers and health workers constituted a strong incentive to encourage them to continue working under difficult conditions. WFP approved commitments worth $US 40 million in support of environmental protection and improvement projects.

62. Humanitarian assistance provided by WFP exceeded $US 260 million during the period under review. Aid to short-term refugees and internally displaced people accounted for $US 90 million while protracted refugee operations absorbed $US 170 million. The number of refugees and displaced persons increased significantly during the year owing to the intensity of civil strife in several OAU member States. The year 1990 was the first full year of implementation of a new WFP modality to assist long-term refugees. This modality has as its principal objective the introduction, in protracted refugee operations, of development elements that would increase the skills of refugee populations and thus lead to their acquiring a greater degree of self-reliance. This new modality is of particular importance to OAU member States since Africa hosts the largest number of refugees in protracted situations.

63. WFP contributed to the development of intra-African trade through commodity purchases in the region. The Programme purchased food commodities worth $US 52 million in OAU member States in 1990.

N. International Labour Organisation

64. At the policy level, the International Labour Organisation (ILO) Plan of Action for Africa does not only take into account the continent's macro-level decisions and guidelines, but is also involved in the study, formulation, implementation, follow-up and evaluation of the policy issues themselves. For example, ILO participated in the conference convened jointly by OAU, the African Development Bank (AfDB) and ECA to examine the continued relevance of the Lagos Plan of Action/Final Act of Lagos. In addition, the services of ILO headquarters and its field structure, including those of regional advisers, teams and projects, were put at the disposal of OAU at various levels of its structure (headquarters, regional/subregional and country level) as and when required. Such activities were, on the whole, guided by the decisions of the recently institutionalized joint consultations between the two organizations.

65. More specific activity areas of practical collaboration at the field level included the administration of already established joint institutions such as the African Rehabilitation Institute with its headquarters at Harare with branches being established at Brazzaville, Dakar, Cairo and Kampala. Although this Institute was facing problems of management and financial support, the two organizations have agreed to ensure that the ongoing activities will continue in order to meet the needs of the African member States in the interest of persons with disabilities.

66. An ILO/OAU-assisted study on income-generating activities for Mozambican refugees in Malawi has found funding possibilities from various sources, and implementation of some of the project was already under way. A study assisted and conducted by ILO on job classification/evaluation of the OAU secretariat staff at headquarters and in the field was also implemented, and follow-up of the study was under way.

67. Other areas of continued collaboration include social security, population and development, rural/urban infrastructure studies through labour intensive programmes, vocational training, labour administration, workers' education, cooperatives, and income generating activities for women, for ANC and PAC, including those undertaken in the front-line and neighbouring countries. The ILO Programme for Emergency Prevention and Preparedness, including drought, famine and other disaster relief activities, also forms part of the organization's preoccupations, including a special financial provision for action in this regard.

68. Close collaboration was also maintained with OAU-affiliated organizations, such as the Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU) and the Pan-African Employers' Confederation (PAEC). Joint activities with these two organizations were pursued vigorously.

69. Other activities of interest to OAU included the development of strategies for employment promotion and human resources utilization in Sub-Saharan Africa on which a report prepared by the ILO Employment Team, including concrete recommendations, was submitted to the OAU Labour Commission and subsequently to the ECA Conference of Ministers of Economic Development and Planning, which met at Tripoli in May 1990.

70. It should be noted that in all these activities, ILO always attempted to ensure and promote the strictest observance of the related ratified ILO Conventions and Recommendations which were already familiar to member States of the organization that were required to report regularly on their application as well as on submission of newly adopted instruments to their competent national legislative bodies for ratification.

O. Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations

71. Collaboration between the Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO) and OAU, in the form of consultations, exchange of information, or joint field activities, continued in a wide range of technical fields.

72. For many years, FAO has supported the Pan-African Rinderpest Campaign (PARC). Through its Technical Cooperation Programme and trust fund arrangements, FAO has developed the communication component of the Campaign and strengthened the epidemiological capabilities of the PARC Coordination Unit. FAO is assisting the OAU Inter-African Bureau for Animal Resources (OAU/IBAR) in its search for donor support for the second phase of PARC.

73. FAO is a member of the International Scientific Council for Trypanosomiasis Research and Control, sponsored by OAU/IBAR and continues to collaborate with OAU, WHO and the Tropical Disease Research Institute in the publication of the Information Quarterly on Tsetse and Trypanosomiasis.

74. OAU is the umbrella organization through which FAO provided assistance, under a project funded by UNDP, to some 30 Sub-Saharan African countries in

the biological control of cassava mealybug, green spider mites, Rastrococcus invadens and other food crop pests. FAO also collaborated with the Inter-African Phytosanitary Council of OAU in various programmes such as the development of a plant quarantine action plan for Africa. Close liaison was maintained with OAU on matters relating to the safe use of pesticides in line with the provisions of the International Code of Conduct on Pesticides.

75. Following indications that the OAU-sponsored project for the integrated management of the Foutah Djallon Mountains would be considered for UNDP funding during the next UNDP programming cycle, FAO has initiated the formulation process for the project's second phase, which had previously been postponed owing to the lack of prospective donors.

76. Cooperation has continued with the OAU Regional Remote Sensing Centre at Nairobi in monitoring precipitation and vegetation by environmental satellites and incorporating the data into early warning systems for food security in the country members of the Inter-Governmental Authority for Drought and Development and the Southern African Development Coordination Conference.

77. As a member of the African Regional Technical Group on Nutrition, FAO hosted the Third African Task Force on Food and Nutrition Development, held in Rome, from 17 to 19 October 1990. OAU was one of the key members of this Task Force and was represented at the Rome meeting.

78. FAO is collaborating closely with OAU in preparing a common African agricultural programme, which would provide the substantive basis for the protocol on food and agriculture of the African economic community treaty. This activity is based on a selective update of the FAO report entitled "African Agriculture: The Next 25 Years", and will incorporate effort to identify and assess the potential role of underexploited food resources in Africa.

P. United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization

79. During the period under review, UNESCO continued to strengthen its cooperation with OAU through the implementation of activities in various fields. OAU cooperated with UNESCO in the Sixth Conference of Ministers of Education and those responsible for economic planning in African member States, held from 8 to 11 July 1991. OAU was invited to attend the third session of the Advisory Committee on Higher Education in Africa, followed by the reflection on the Role of Higher Education in Society for the African region, held at Dakar, from 25 February to 1 March 1991. The Director-General of UNESCO and the Secretary-General of OAU delivered a joint television announcement to launch the International Literacy Year in Africa. A high-level mission of the OAU secretariat visited UNESCO headquarters from 13 to 15 May 1991 to discuss OAU participation in the implementation of the "Priority Africa" Plan of Action for Improving the Planning, Governance and Management of Higher Education in Africa.

80. During the first half of the 1990-1991 biennium, cooperation between UNESCO and OAU in the fields of science and technology focused on three main areas: assessment of education and research in basic sciences and technology in Africa; training of scientific and technological personnel, especially in the field of new technologies; and human resources development for the integration of science and technology into development.

81. OAU has been one of the important supporters of "Les routes de fer en Afrique", a project of the World Decade for Cultural Development. Submitted by Mozambique under the Decade Participation Programme in 1990-1991, the project received financial support in the amount of $US 20,000. Four other projects initiated by this organization were recognized as Decade activities in 1989-1991.

82. Within the Programme of Cultural Policies, the following activities were undertaken in cooperation with OAU:

(a) The organization of a regional seminar on the development of cultural industries in Africa, held from 26 to 30 August 1991, to sum up the results of four subregional seminars on cultural industries organized jointly by OAU/UNESCO from 1985 to 1990 as follows: Conakry in October 1985; Harare in February 1988; Madagascar in 1989 and Nairobi in 1990;

(b) A feasibility study on the creation of an African cultural common market;

(c) A research on the cultural obstacles to the broadening of the participation of African women in the process of development.

83. UNESCO is a member of the Interagency Coordinating Committee (IACC), presided over by OAU, which supervises the implementation of the Regional African Satellite Communication System (RASCOM) project executed by the International Telecommunication Union (ITU). This project aims at providing efficient and economical means of telecommunications (including requirements for sound transmission, television broadcasting and community reception by satellite) to all areas in Africa through the use of a regional African satellite system complemented, as necessary, by other appropriate technologies.

Q. International Civil Aviation Organization

84. OAU continued to be invited to the meetings of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) within its sphere of interest, including sessions of the Assembly of ICAO. ICAO in turn was represented at the 1991 high-level meeting between OAU and the organizations of the United Nations system.

85. ICAO continued to support UNPAAERD and participated at high-level meetings to review the implementation of the Programme of Action. It also continued to play an active role in inter-agency preparations for the Second Transport and Communications Decade for Africa.

86. ICAO continued to maintain a close and continuous working relationship with the African Civil Aviation Commission and provided the Commission with expert advice and secretariat assistance upon request. Documents and reports on studies of interest to the African region were provided to OAU on a regular basis to allow it to maintain basic documentation on civil aviation matters.

87. ICAO also worked in close cooperation with sub-regional organizations in Africa on development of international civil aviation, notably the Southern African Development Coordination Conference, the Preferential Trade Area for Eastern and Southern African States and the Economic Communities for Central African and Western African States.

R. World Health Organization

88. The World Health Organization (WHO) has explained in many forums its strategy for strengthening technical and economic support, in accordance with the relevant decisions of the forty-third World Health Assembly held at Geneva in May 1990, to countries facing serious economic constraints. These forums have included meetings of the organizations of the United Nations system, of development aid agencies and, most recently, the fourth ordinary session of the Conference of African Ministers of Health, held in Swaziland in April 1991, which was attended by the Director-General of WHO.

89. WHO actively monitors formal agreements reached with the highest officials of 13 OAU member States concerning their priority health and health-related problems. In specific technical areas, WHO activities in the region included:

(a) Cooperation with the following countries in assisting refugees and displaced persons and/or in coping with and monitoring emergency situations: in Angola, Chad, Djibouti, Liberia, Mozambique, Namibia, Somalia and the Sudan. The WHO Pan-African Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response, established in Addis Ababa in 1988, played a crucial role in these matters;

(b) Appeals to the international community to support the efforts of the African countries and WHO in implementing national plans of action for malaria control, the most serious health problem on the African continent. To strengthen the commitment to the control strategies by political leaders, the WHO Executive Board recommended in 1990 that a ministerial conference should be convened in 1992;

(c) Assistance to 51 African countries in developing national programmes to fight the acquired immunodeficiency syndrome (AIDS) pandemic. Even if the human immunodeficiency virus (HIV) is stopped from spreading, it is estimated that there will be 6 million deaths from AIDS and 10 million AIDS orphans in Africa by the year 2000;

(d) Cooperation of WHO Action Programme on Essential Drugs with 17 African States in implementing the latter's national drug policies. WHO seeks

to strengthen the manufacture of pharmaceuticals, vaccines and biological products in the preferential trade area for eastern and southern African countries since it considers the manufactured goods capable of meeting the major part of the need for essential drugs and other medical products;

(e) Pursuit of south-south collaboration on the reinforcement of the recognition of traditional medicinal plant remedies as an important component of primary health care;

(f) Participation at an international forum to be held in Ghana in December 1991, together with the first ladies of a number of African and other countries, to address the topic "Health: A Conditionality for Economic Development - Breaking the Cycle of Poverty and Inequity";

(g) Study by the WHO Regional Office for Africa of the nutritional status and deficiencies prevalent in the region as an input to the international conference on nutrition in 1992. In 25 countries where nutritional conditions are well below standard, WHO will work out concrete initiatives with the OAU officers concerned;

(h) Placing of major emphasis on meeting basic environmental health requirements in Africa, such as safe water, hygienic excreta disposal and adequate shelter, in consultation with OAU;

(i) Cooperation with the OAU Health Bureau and with African universities in strengthening the development of human resources, especially at the district level, by providing appropriate advisers and partners.

S. World Bank

90. The World Bank's lending programme to Sub-Saharan Africa reached $US 4 billion in fiscal year 1990, over 70 per cent of which was concessional assistance from the International Development Association (IDA). Sub-Saharan Africa is scheduled to receive about 50 per cent of the $US 15.5 billion IDA-9 replenishment, indicating the priority which the World Bank attaches to the resource needs of Sub-Saharan Africa. By fiscal year 1990, about 30 per cent of the Bank's lending programme had been allocated for adjustment programmes, the remainder for traditional investment programmes.

91. The bulk of the resources of the Bank's Special Programme of Assistance (SPA) is committed to the low income, debt-distressed countries that are undertaking adjustment. To tackle debt and adjustment issues, SPA supports the strategy of combining additional concessional resources, debt relief and policy reform. The first phase (1988-1990) of SPA has been extended. An estimated $US 7.5 to 8 billion in cofinancing resources has been pledged for the second phase (1991-1993).

92. The African Capacity Building Initiative (ACBI) is the Bank's second regional initiative and programme of special emphasis to Sub-Saharan Africa.

The Bank's principal cosponsors in this programme are the African Development Bank and UNDP, although many other bilateral donors and African Governments are also participants. The African Capacity Building Foundation (ACBF) has been established under ACBI and will start out with approximately $US 100 million for the first four-year pilot phase. Its long-term objectives is to enable Sub-Saharan Africa to have its own core of top-flight policy analysts and development managers.

93. Another Bank initiative focuses on agricultural services, which has now been extended to 22 countries in Sub-Saharan Africa. Many of the extension services are directed specifically at female farmers, who play the key role in African agriculture. The Bank is also working closely with other donors and African Governments in coordinating the financing for agricultural research through the Special Programme of African Agricultural Research.

94. The Social Dimensions of Adjustment project helps African Governments to ensure that the impact of adjustment on the poor is taken into account and addressed in every programme of economic policy reform. Thirty Sub-Saharan countries, as well as numerous bilateral donors including IFAD, UNFPA, and the European Community, are currently participating in the project.

95. Education is another priority area. As a follow-up to the Bank's 1988 education policy paper, a number of Sub-Saharan African countries are implementing education sector adjustment operations supported by IDA. Moreover, 25 donors to African education meet regularly to discuss concrete steps to improve their coordination through externally-funded action programmes.

96. The Bank is giving special emphasis to the role of women in development. It is working with UNFPA and International Planned Parenthood to prepare action programmes and an agenda for the 1990s on family planning, safe motherhood and child spacing. It is also working with a number of African countries on environmental action plans. Every Bank project for Africa now includes a preliminary environmental assessment. The World Bank is also supporting the recently established Global Coalition for Africa, an international forum that helps build an international development consensus on Africa.

T. International Monetary Fund

97. In 1990, the International Monetary Fund (IMF) continued to cooperate with OAU through its member States that were also Fund members, and at the United Nations through contacts between the Special Representative of IMF to the United Nations and the OAU Steering Committee in relation to Africa's Priority Programme.

98. In accordance with its mandate, the Fund carried out its regular consultations with members regarding their economic and financial situations, and provided financial and technical assistance in support of adjustment

programmes in African countries. The Fund also played an active role in assisting African countries in mobilizing additional external resources to finance their reform programmes.

99. As at the end of 1990, the Fund provided financial assistance to 21 African countries undertaking adjustment programmes, with the total resources committed under all of the Fund's facilities amounting to SDR 1.9 billion. At that time, four countries had stand-by arrangements, one an extended arrangement, five arrangements under the structural adjustment facility, and 11 arrangements under the enhanced structural adjustment facility.

100. The Fund also continued to provide extensive technical assistance to African countries for the effective management of policy reforms in the areas of public finance, monetary policy, debt management and exchange rate management. Furthermore, the Fund offered extensive training, both at Headquarters and in the field, in financial analysis, public finance and the balance of payments.

U. Universal Postal Union

101. Cooperation between the Universal Postal Union (UPU) and OAU took place within the framework of the activities conducted by UPU and the Pan African Postal Union (PAPU), a specialized agency of OAU, chiefly in the field of development cooperation for the benefit of the African countries. A cooperation agreement between UPU and PAPU was concluded with a view, among other things, to coordinating programmes and executing jointly technical assistance activities, in consideration of the resources supplied by each of the two parties.

102. UPU provided the member countries of PAPU with substantial technical assistance, which consisted of providing the services of consultants and regional technical assistance advisers for training, research and operational activities (63.5 months); granting training fellowships in various postal specialties (124 months); and supplying of postal equipment. A total of 35 administrators benefited from such aid.

V. International Telecommunication Union

103. OAU is a member of the Pan African Telecommunications (PANAFTEL) Coordinating Committee which is comprised of the Secretary-General of the International Telecommunication Union (ITU), the Executive Secretary of ECA, the Secretary-General of OAU, the Secretary-General of Pan African Telecommunication Union (PATU) and the President of AfDB. The members of the Committee shared responsibilities for coordination in the political (OAU), economic (ECA), financial (AfDB) and technical areas (PATU and ITU) in the implementation of the PANAFTEL network.

104. OAU is the Chairman of the Inter-Agency Coordinating Committee (IACC) of the Regional African Satellite Communication System (RASCOM) project. IACC had the responsibility of integrating and harmonizing all ongoing pre-feasibility studies into a single feasibility study, as well as supervising and monitoring the implementation of the study.

105. At the Conference of African Ministers of Transport, Communications and Planning, held at Harare in March 1986, the Ministers reconfirmed the mandate of IACC and urged it to undertake a feasibility study of RASCOM, which was completed at the end of 1990. The Conference of African Ministers Responsible for Telecommunications decided to proceed immediately to the transitional stage of the project in which IACC has an advisory role.

106. PATU, the specialized institution of OAU in the field of telecommunications, participated in the implementation of the two PANAFTEL projects (RAF/87/011 - Operation and extension; RAF/87/085 - Rehabilitation and maintenance) as the third partner after UNDP and ITU. PATU, as signatory of the project documents, represented African administrations in the projects and was a member of the steering committee of the projects. PATU participated in many activities of the project as a counterpart for training purposes. In

1991, PATU will get a sub-contract with ITU (within the projects) to implement some activities of the two projects.

W. World Intellectual Property Organization

107. In June 1990, the Secretary-General of OAU visited the headquarters of the World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO) and held discussions with the Director-General of WIPO on cooperation between the two organizations, including the outcome of the meeting between the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and OAU, held at Addis Ababa in April 1991.

108. In order to strengthen the OAU secretariat in the field of intellectual property, a senior OAU official was awarded a WIPO training fellowship in September 1990. Another senior OAU official was awarded a training fellowship in copyright in October 1990.

109. In September 1990, a senior OAU official held discussions with WIPO officials in Geneva on the preparations for the WIPO/OAU medal award ceremony to take place during the twenty-seventh session of the Assembly of Heads of States and Government in June 1991. WIPO and OAU agreed that a medal should be awarded to each of the following: (a) the best African inventor; (b) the best young African inventor (age limit of 25 years); and (c) the best African female inventor. It was also agreed that only inventions in the following fields should be considered: (a) health care; (b) food technology; and (c) energy.

110. In October-November 1990, a senior WIPO official attended the OAU Regional Seminar on Cultural Industries held at Nairobi. In cooperation with OAU, WIPO is organizing a joint WIPO/OAU seminar on copyright, which is scheduled to take place in the last quarter of 1991 at Kampala.

111. WIPO has an extensive development cooperation programme with OAU member States within the framework of regional industrial property organizations, namely, the African Regional Industrial Property Organization (ARIPO), the Organisation africaine de la propriété intellectuelle (OAPI), and the African Regional Centre for Technology (ARCT). In June and July 1990, 15 African trainees attended the General Introductory Course on Industrial Property given in Banjul, in English, and organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of the Gambia. Also in June 1990, 13 African trainees attended in Conakry the General Introductory Course on Industrial Property, in French, organized by WIPO in cooperation with the Government of Guinea and OAPI. In November 1990, with the cooperation of the Government of Zimbabwe, WIPO organized the Colloquium on the Judiciary and the Intellectual Property System, in English. It was held at Harare, with 15 African countries participating.

112. In December 1990, with the cooperation of the Government of Senegal and ARCT, WIPO organized in Dakar the Workshop on the Use of Patent Documents as a Source of Technological Information; 18 countries and ARIPO and OAPI

participated in the workshop. In the same month, WIPO organized the fifth session of the Consultative Committee on the implementation of the quadripartite agreement involving WIPO, ARIPO, OAPI and ARCT. The session took place in Dakar.

113. WIPO attended the meeting of the secretariats of the organizations of the United Nations system and OAU, held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1991. In June 1991, WIPO attended the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, held at Abuja, Nigeria. A special ceremony was held before the Assembly to award a WIPO gold medal to an Egyptian laureate selected by a jury composed of members designated by OAU.

114. WIPO pursued its efforts to assist OAU member States with the drafting of new intellectual property legislation and the computerization of their respective intellectual property offices.

X. International Fund for Agricultural Development

115. By the end of 1990, assistance from the International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD) to Africa under the regular programme amounted to special drawing rights (SDR) 711.4 million ($US 847.8 million) for 98 projects in 40 countries, or 32.9 per cent of the total project costs of IFAD amounting to $US 2,574.4 million. In addition, under its Special Programme for Sub-Saharan African Countries Affected by Drought and Desertification, IFAD provided as at the end of 1990, SDR 176.7 million ($US 227 million) for 23 projects in 18 countries.

116. By the end of 1990, IFAD had committed almost all of the resources from contributions to the Special Programme, and the level of assistance to sub-Saharan Africa was increased from about 33 per cent to about 55 per cent of total annual lending by IFAD during the period from 1986 to 1990. Moreover, two regional projects were prepared: the development of improved food processing technologies for women and the testing of a strategy for their dissemination; and the establishment of a preventative control programme for desert locust involving nine African countries.

117. At the thirteenth session of the IFAD Governing Council, held in January 1990, many recipient as well as donor countries expressed their support for the Special Programme and recommended its continuation. Under the second phase, the Special Programme could play an effective role in channelling much needed resources to smallholder farmers, nomadic pastoralists and other rural groups that constitute over three fourths of the population in sub-Saharan Africa.

118. The main thrust of the IFAD technical assistance grant support for research in 1990 continued to be on the generation, assessment and diffusion of sustainable agricultural technologies through the ongoing regional research programmes which it financed. Support by IFAD for traditional food-crop technology generation focused on the research and development of the

date-palm and cassava. In the field of livestock research, the stress was on the traditional domestic animal, the camel. The total amount of grant support by IFAD to agricultural research in Africa amounted to approximately $US 42 million.

119. IFAD financed two programmes that addressed the New World Screwworm in the North African region ($US 5.5 million) and the control and management of the desert locust ($US 2.5 million). Both programmes were based on the biological control of pests. Initiatives by IFAD in supporting these two region-wide efforts have been catalytic in mobilizing a substantial amount of donor support for co-financing these programmes, for example the amount of approximately $US 6 million for the Desert Locust Control Programme.

120. The fourth subprogramme of the Agricultural Management Training Programme for Africa (AMTA IV) was launched in 1990. AMTA was a regional activity initiated in 1984 to improve management capacity in Africa's smallholder sector. AMTA IV covers seven French-speaking countries in sub-Saharan Africa, bringing the total number of participating countries to 27. About 120 project managers and senior project staff from over 20 projects are benefiting from AMTA IV which, in addition, involved a similar number of senior policy makers from the seven participating countries (Benin, Burundi, the United Republic of Cameroon, the Congo, Madagascar, Rwanda and Togo).

121. Execution of AMTA IV was entrusted to the African Development Bank. During 1990, preparatory activities were launched for the replication of AMTA in North African countries in response to a specific request made by OAU. Moreover, studies were undertaken to assess the possibility of capitalizing on the results of the past multi-year programme by installing a regional system to spread this innovative management training approach to all African countries.

122. A technical assistance grant for "Sub-Regional Pilot Project to Develop and Disseminate Appropriate Food Processing Equipment for Rural Women in Sub-Saharan Africa" was approved in September 1989 for financing under the IFAD Special Programme for Sub-Saharan Africa. IFAD financing of $US 500,000 was supplemented by contributions from the Government of the Netherlands ($US 200,000) and from the Industrial Development Fund of the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) ($US 400,000). In addition, there would be contributions in kind from the Governments of Burkina Faso and Mali, the two countries in which the pilot project would be launched.

123. The project responded to the need of rural women in Africa to increase the amount of time available for productive, revenue-earning activities by reducing the time spent on traditional household chores such as food processing. The project will be implemented over a period of 24 months in 20 pilot villages in Burkina Faso and Mali. UNIDO will be responsible for the execution of the project and for the management of the grant funds according to an agreement signed between UNIDO and IFAD in June 1990.

Y. United Nations Industrial Development Organization

124. The cooperation between the United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO) and OAU with respect to the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA), particularly within the framework of the joint committee of the secretariats of OAU, ECA and UNIDO on the implementation of IDDA, was significantly intensified and strengthened in respect of the preparation of the programme for the Second IDDA. This has permitted in particular the elaboration of 47 national programmes, four subregional programmes and the regional programme for the Second IDDA. The cooperation has also included joint servicing of two subregional meetings on the promotion of intra-African industrial cooperation in North Africa (Tunis, 6 and 7 October 1990) and Eastern and Southern Africa (Kampala, 13 to 16 March 1991), as well as joint servicing of the tenth meeting of the Conference of African Ministers of Industry (Dakar, 29 to 31 July 1991), which inter alia, approved the programme for the Second IDDA, adopted an African Common Position for the Fourth General Conference of UNIDO and the Dakar Declaration on industrial development and economic integration in Africa. The two organizations have continued to participate in the meetings of each other's policy organs.

125. At the request of the OAU Secretary-General, UNIDO has embarked upon the preparation of the above-mentioned protocol. The document is being finalized for submission to OAU.

126. As in the past, UNIDO was invited by OAU to participate in the sixth All-Africa Trade Fair at Bulawayo, Zimbabwe in 1992, by organizing an investment forum and activities for the popularization of the second IDDA. Accordingly, UNIDO has taken an active part in the preparatory work for the Trade Fair. It has in particular participated at the inter-agency meeting held from 20 to 22 June 1990 in Addis Ababa, as well as the first and second meetings of the Organizing Committee for the Trade Fair, held at Harare from 17 to 19 October 1990 and from 22 to 24 July 1991, respectively.

127. UNIDO re-emphasizes its strong commitment to continued cooperation with OAU in the interest of advancing economic development, particularly through accelerated industrialization in African countries. Such cooperation is expected to be further strengthened within the framework of the Second IDDA and the recently established African economic community.

V. COOPERATION IN OTHER AREAS

A. Department of Public Information of the Secretariat

128. During 1990, the Department of Public Information of the Secretariat continued to carry out information activities on subjects of concern to the United Nations and OAU. The Department provided extensive radio, television and photographic coverage of developments in Africa, including those relating

to OAU activities. The non-governmental organizations affiliated with the United Nations and the United Nations information centres were especially active in stimulating discussion on and support for issues of interest to both the United Nations and OAU. The Department's press releases, periodicals and other publications continued to feature political, economic and social themes relating to Africa, highlighting, where appropriate, the activities of OAU. Extensive coverage continued to be provided for UNPAAERD, anti-apartheid action, Namibia and Western Sahara, emphasizing the involvement of OAU whenever relevant.

129. Press releases, video and radio cassettes, films, publications, wall sheets and posters on African issues were disseminated. A number of the 1990 weekly briefings in New York for representatives of non-governmental organizations addressed issues relating directly to Africa. The Department's Radio Section produced programmes on specific issues of interest to the United Nations and OAU, copies of which were distributed to radio stations in Africa and elsewhere.

130. The Department continued to publish Africa Recovery, a periodical that keeps the international community informed of developments within Africa that relate to the economic recovery programme and the actions requested or being taken by the donor countries. The joint actions of OAU, its member countries and the United Nations form a major part of the publication's reportage. The Department prepared a seminar on Promoting an Independent and Pluralistic African Press, held at Windhoek from 29 April to 3 May 1991. The seminar was a joint project of the United Nations and UNESCO.

B. World Meteorological Organization

131. As a follow-up to the meeting held between OAU and the organizations of the United Nations system in Addis Ababa in April 1990, the Secretary-General of OAU paid a visit to the secretariat of the World Meteorological Organization (WMO) in June 1990 to promote cooperation between the two organizations. The heads of the two organizations agreed on the need of African countries for technical assistance in the areas of meteorology and hydrology and in the field of strengthening national and regional institutions dealing with environmental matters in Africa. Furthermore, they agreed on the setting up of a meeting at technical level between the two organizations to develop joint project proposals and activities for the future.

132. In 1990, WMO implemented 43 national and regional projects in the areas of meteorology and hydrology funded by UNDP and other donors as well as by its regular budget. The total assistance to the African countries in 1990 was approximately $US 11 million. In addition, efforts made by WMO, UNESCO and UNDP to establish adequate networks and water resources master plans in the African countries are benefiting OAU hydrology projects such as the International Hydrological Map of Africa. In cooperation with ECA, WMO is organizing an African Conference on hydrological services to be held in September 1991 at Addis Ababa.

133. Within the framework of the African Ministerial Conference on Environment (AMCEN), WMO is participating in the implementation of the Cairo Programme of Action and in the Inter-Agency Working Group of AMCEN and in the work of the committees established by AMCEN. WMO is cooperating with UNDP in the latter's Desertification Programme for Africa through its World Climate Programme activities and with OAU and ECA in the preparation of the 1992 United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (UNCED). As a follow-up to the Second World Climate Conference held at Geneva from 29 October to 7 November 1990, WMO has endeavoured to develop and seek funding for projects aimed at improving the monitoring, detection and prediction of climate change.

C. International Maritime Organization

134. The International Maritime Organization (IMO) has put into effect a comprehensive strategy for the development of human resources, which includes basic training, training for the award of certificates of competency, specialized training and post-graduate training. At the national level, IMO has assisted maritime training centres in 14 African countries during 1990-1991. At the regional level, IMO continued to support the Regional Academy of Maritime Science and Technology at Abidjan, for French-speaking African countries, and the Regional Maritime Academy at Accra, for English-speaking African countries.

135. Maritime training at the global level is currently provided with IMO support at the following institutions: (a) World Maritime University (WMU) at Malmö (Sweden), where 29 students from 17 African countries were undertaking specialized training at the post-graduate level in 1990/91 (WMU currently has 5 branches in Africa); (b) IMO International Maritime Academy at Trieste, Italy, where 11 students from 10 African countries were enrolled for 1990/91; (c) IMO International Maritime Law Institute in Malta, where 14 students from as many African countries participated during 1990/91.

136. IMO acted as the executing agency for numerous national and regional projects dealing with maritime safety, maritime administration, maritime legislation and technical port operations undertaken within the framework of the United Nations Transport and Communications Decade in Africa, in cooperation with ECA and OAU. IMO is currently implementing or providing assistance to projects, including seven regional projects in 40 countries in Africa. In addition, 23 seminars and workshops at national and regional levels were conducted in Africa during 1990.

137. IMO was the lead agency for the West and Central African Seminar on Waste Management and Waste Disposal at Sea, held at Abidjan from 28 May to 1 June 1990. It also organized the Regional Workshop on Hazardous Waste Management, Policies and Strategies for East African Countries, held in Mauritius from 3 to 7 June 1991. Both activities received support from the IMO Global Programme for the Protection of the Marine Environment as well as from UNEP and other institutions.

138. Other activities undertaken by IMO in the environmental field were an IMO/UNEP cooperation programme for the implementation of activities under the Regional Seas Action Plans covering African countries; an IMO/UNDP project for the rehabilitation of the Bay of Dakar, Senegal; and an IMO/UNDP project for the drafting of a plan of action for the protection of Senegalese waters and coasts.

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Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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I. INTRODUCTION

1. On 7 November 1990, the General Assembly adopted resolution 45/13 by which, inter alia, it requested the Secretary-General of the United Nations and the relevant agencies of the United Nations system to continue to extend their support and cooperation through the Secretary-General of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) to the member States of that organization in their efforts to enhance African economic integration by the establishment of an African economic community, in accordance with the relevant resolutions of OAU. In this regard, the Assembly also requested all Member States, United Nations bodies, the specialized agencies and all other relevant organs of the United Nations, as well as non-governmental organizations, to contribute to African economic integration and cooperation by reactivating and increasing financial and technical assistance to programmes and projects of regional economic integration and cooperation of African regional and subregional organizations.

2. In the same resolution, the General Assembly endorsed the agreement reached between the United Nations system and OAU for convening a mid-term review meeting between the secretariats of those organizations, at OAU headquarters during April 1991, in order to evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the proposals and recommendations agreed upon in April 1990 on the cooperation between the United Nations system and OAU for 1990/1991 and to adopt new measures for their effective implementation.

3. The present report gives an account of the deliberations, conclusions and recommendations of the meeting between the Secretariats of the United Nations and of OAU, its specialized agencies and other organizations, held at Addis Ababa from 2 to 5 April 1991.

II. ORGANIZATIONAL ARRANGEMENTS

4. On 5 October 1990, a delegation of the OAU secretariat, led by the Assistant Secretary-General for Economic Development and Cooperation, held a consultative meeting with the United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship in New York on cooperation between the United Nations system and OAU.

5. At the conclusion of the meeting, it was agreed that a mid-term review meeting between the secretariats of the United Nations system and OAU should be convened for two reasons: first, to evaluate the progress achieved in the implementation of the proposals and recommendations agreed upon in April 1990 on the cooperation between the two organizations, and secondly, on the basis of such evaluation and additional information provided by the agencies and organizations of the United Nations system and OAU, to adopt new measures for the effective implementation of the 1991-1992 programme of cooperation in the context of OAU efforts to establish an African economic community.

6. It was further agreed that the mid-term review and the new measures to be recommended cover the following areas of cooperation considered during the meeting held in April 1990:

(a) Economic integration and cooperation with special focus on the establishment of an African economic community;

(b) Food and agriculture;

(c) Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies;

(d) Environment and development;

(e) Science and technology.

7. The following participants from the United Nations system and OAU, as well as other organizations took part in the meeting:

(a) United Nations

Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship

Office for Research and the Collection of Information

United Nations Economic Commission for Africa (ECA)

United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD)

United Nations Development Programme (UNDP)

United Nations Environment Programme (UNEP)

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA)

United Nations Centre for Human Settlements (Habitat)

United Nations Disaster Relief Organization (UNDRO)

United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR)

World Food Programme (WFP)

(b) Specialized agencies

International Labour Organisation (ILO)

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations (FAO)

United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization (UNESCO)

World Health Organization (WHO)

International Telecommunication Union (ITU)

World Meteorological Organization (WMO)

World Intellectual Property Organization (WIPO)

International Fund for Agricultural Development (IFAD)

United Nations Industrial Development Organization (UNIDO)

(c) Organization of African Unity

General Secretariat

African Rehabilitation Institute (ARI)

Organization of African Trade Union Unity (OATUU)

Pan-African News Agency (PANA)

Pan-African Telecommunications Union (PATU)

Pan-African Postal Union (PAPU)

Supreme Council of Sports for Africa (SCSA/CSSA)

Union of African Railways (UAR)

(d) Other organizations

African Development Bank (AfDB)

8. The meeting was officially opened by the Secretary-General of OAU, who delivered the keynote address. A message from the Secretary-General of the United Nations was read out by the Under-Secretary-General for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship. The meeting was also addressed by the United Nations Under-Secretary-General and Executive Secretary of the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA).

III. CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

A. Economic cooperation and integration with special focus on the establishment of an African economic community

1. General

9. On behalf of the joint secretariat of OAU, Economic Commission for Africa and the Africa Development Bank, the representatives of OAU and ECA briefed the meeting on the progress and status of the preparation of the draft treaty which had been finalized for signature by the forthcoming OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government to be held in June 1991, at Abuja, as well as of the draft protocols and the relevant sectoral studies. The Economic Commission for Africa also provided the information relating to the activities undertaken at the subregional level to promote and strengthen the existing regional economic communities within the fourth UNDP Programme Cycle.

10. It was pointed out that the recommendations of the Lagos Plan of Action for the Implementation of the Monrovia Startegy for the Economic Development of Africa and the Final Act of Lagos (A/S-11/14, annex 1 and 2), Africa's Priority Programme for Economic Recovery 1986-1990 (A/40/666, annex 1, declaration AHG/Decl.1 (XXI), annex), the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development (UNPAAERD) (S-13/2, annex), the African Charter for Popular Participation in Development and the African Alternative Framework to Structural Adjustment Programmes for Socio-economic Recovery and Transformation (AAF-SAP) and the Declaration of the twenty-sixth OAU Assembly of Heads of State and Government continue to guide the collaborative efforts between the United Nations system and OAU. The necessity of devising a mechanism to develop and sustain political support to accelerate the continental economic integration process was stressed.

2. Operational modalities and arrangements between the United Nations system and OAU for regional economic integration

11. The meeting agreed upon the following recommendations for joint action during 1991-1992:

(a) According top priority to the human dimension and capacity-building in the integration process, and focusing on: (i) regional economic integration; (ii) human resource development and utilization; and (iii) long-term planning;

(b) Strengthening the existing regional economic communities through proper coordination, harmonization and rationalization of their activities and programmes within the context of the overall policy framework of the African economic community;

(c) In the process of the establishment of an African economic community, developing regional master plans on the sectoral level leading to a comprehensive continental master plan so as to ensure a coordinated and integrated approach. In this context, the required financial resources should be mobilized and efforts should be made to avoid duplication.

12. The meeting took note of the work programme of the OAU Permanent Steering Committee relating to the preparation of protocols and relevant sectoral studies and recommended that:

(a) Representatives of United Nations agencies at Addis Ababa should be the focal points with respect to United Nations/OAU cooperation. Agencies not represented at Addis Ababa should indicate their respective focal points to OAU for easy communication and consultation in the areas of common interest;

(b) The OAU offices in Geneva and New York should serve as focal points for communication between the United Nations system and OAU;

(c) The relevant United Nations organizations and agencies should communicate to OAU, sectoral or global studies which could be relevant to the preparation of the sectoral studies and protocols relating to an African economic community;

(d) The assistance provided by the United Nations agencies in the preparation of studies and protocols should be consistent with the agreed priorities outlined by OAU for the speedy establishment of an African economic community and should include the provision of competent African staff members to OAU or regional economic communities;

(e) United Nations agencies, in preparing their regular work programme, should take due account of the requirements for the establishment of an African economic community, and technical assistance of the United Nations system should be geared towards the strengthening of the institutional framework of an African economic community. OAU should sensitize the African members in the governing bodies of the respective United Nations agencies to ensure that the programmes of those agencies take fully into account the requirements of an African economic community;

(f) With regard to the role of United Nations system vis-à-vis OAU in the process of the establishment of the African economic community, due attention should be paid to United Nations General Assembly resolutions 45/13, 44/17 of 1 November 1989 and 44/211 of 22 December 1989, which call for technical and logistic support, as well as for government/national execution.

13. The meeting underscored the importance of effective sensitization and full involvement of all sectors of the society, in particular the economic operators, in the process of establishing an African economic community through a well prepared programme of sensitization as provided for in the project jointly sponsored by OAU and UNDP. All United Nations agencies should contribute to this effort.

14. With regard to resource mobilization for the implementation of joint United Nations/OAU programmes and particularly in the context of the fifth UNDP programming cycle, the meeting agreed on the need to:

(a) Emphasize the programme approach in the implementation of activities relating to the proposed African economic community; and to request intergovernmental organizations to submit to the next joint meeting between them, ECA, OAU and UNDP the strategy papers they submitted to UNDP for consideration in the fifth cycle with a view to coordinating their activities with OAU;

(b) Set up a coordination mechanism between agencies, organizations and regional economic communities of the United Nations and of OAU and the relevant intergovernmental organizations in the process of formulating and implementing regional programmes;

(c) Set up a joint United Nations/OAU system-wide inter-agency task force to work out a comprehensive and integrated work programme for the implementation of the proposed African economic community on the basis of the priorities and policy guidelines of OAU.

B. Food and agriculture

1. Status of implementation of the cooperation programme between OAU and United Nations system agreed upon in April 1990

15. The meeting noted with satisfaction the implementation of the United Nations/OAU cooperative programme in the food and agriculture sector agreed upon in April 1990, as contained in OAU document Review and Summary of Co-operation Activities between the Organization of African Unity and the United Nations System: 1990-1991. The relevant programme centred essentially on the preparation of a common African agricultural programme.

16. The meeting was informed that work on the preparation of a framework paper for the proposed agricultural programme was scheduled to be completed by June 1991 for submission to OAU. Also in preparation was a draft document on non-conventional food resources requested by OAU, which was also expected to be completed by June 1991.

17. In conformity with the agreement reached at the April 1990 meeting on the preparation of a common African agricultural programme, the concerned African regional organizations and United Nations agencies will be consulted at all appropriate stages of the preparatory process. The draft programme will also be submitted to an inter-agency consultative meeting, expanded to include representatives of the subregional economic community organizations and other relevant African intergovernmental organizations for review and further processing prior to its submission to the policy-making and legislative organs of OAU for possible adoption.

2. Recommendations

18. It was agreed that new areas of cooperation between OAU and individual United Nations agencies and organizations should continue to be explored bilaterally between those organizations and OAU. It was further agreed that in addition to policy level communications, focal points in concerned agencies and organizations should be designated by OAU and the United Nations for working-level contacts on technical issues of mutual interest.

19. The meeting agreed on the following schedules for follow-up work on the preparation of a common African agricultural programme:

Action taken	Target dates
(a) Submission by FAO of	
(i) A draft framework paper for proposed agricultural programme;	
(ii) Draft terms of reference for consultancy on the proposed programme;	
(iii) Candidate(s) for consultancy to OAU	June/July 1991
(b) Circulation by OAU to United Nations organizations concerned, subregional community organizations and other intergovernmental organizations:	
(i) A draft framework paper for the proposed programme;	
(ii) A draft of terms of reference for a common African agricultural programme consultancy	August 1991
(c) Comments on draft framework paper for the proposed programme by concerned United Nations organizations, subregional community organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations to be sent to OAU with copies to FAO	mid-October 1991
(d) Common African agricultural programme consultancy begins	1 November 1991
(e) Submission of consultancy report	31 January 1992
(f) Inter-agency consultative meeting for finalization of the draft	May 1992
(g) Submission of the draft programme to African Ministers for Agriculture and legislative organs of OAU	as soon as appropriate after May 1992

20. In this regard, it was noted that matters raised in General Assembly resolution 44/211, particularly with regard to funding arrangements and procedures of United Nations operational activities for development, were the subject of extensive and intensive consultations in other forums within the United Nations system, OAU and interested African intergovernmental organizations.

21. It was also noted that viable programmes for food and agricultural development should always be related to the issue of environmental sustainability. While this matter was covered under environment and development, it will also be fully addressed in the proposed common African agricultural programme.

22. Furthermore, the meeting was informed that work on a UNDP funded consultancy on the preparation of the proposed African economic community protocol on food and agriculture had been initiated. Considering that the protocol will be a legal tool for the implementation of a common African agricultural programme, the meeting recommended that the concerned United Nations organizations, subregional community organizations and other relevant intergovernmental organizations should be fully consulted on the development of the protocol.

C. Refugees, displaced persons and emergencies in Africa

Summary of discussions and recommendations

23. The meeting reviewed the progress achieved in the implementation of recommendations adopted in April 1990 as far as refugees, displaced persons and emergency situations were concerned. It was pointed out that the working figure of refugees in Africa should be about 6 million, instead of the 5 million figure currently used. It was also requested that the component of returnees be added to the heading of this chapter.

24. Concerning cooperation between the United Nations system and OAU in tackling the root-causes of the problem of refugees and displaced persons, it was agreed that while OAU played a political role in this regard the role of the United Nations system was to alleviate the suffering of the affected people. The role of UNICEF, UNDP, UNDRO, UNHCR, WFP, ILO, UNESCO, WHO and others with respect to economic matters and natural disasters that might also be root-causes of some population displacements was underlined. Voluntary repatriation was pointed out as the final solution that should be addressed as a priority concern. The meeting took note of the information provided by OAU regarding the positive role played by its Secretary-General in conflict situations in Africa.

25. The meeting also agreed that there was need for the United Nations system and OAU to discuss and determine strategies for tackling the root-causes of the problem of refugees and displaced persons, as well as other related subjects. In this respect, it was recommended that a seminar should be

organized at the OAU office in Geneva during the annual meetings of the UNHCR Executive Committee with the participation of donors, United Nations agencies, non-governmental organizations and members of the OAU Commission of Fifteen on Refugees. It was suggested that similar meetings could be convened during the general assemblies of the United Nations agencies and on the occasion of the meeting of the OAU Coordinating Committee on Assistance to Refugees.

26. Regarding the need to set up a mechanism within the United Nations Secretariat to deal with displaced persons as recommended in the Oslo Declaration and Plan of Action by the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa, held at Oslo from 22 to 24 August 1988 (A/43/717 and Add.1 and Corr.1, appendix), it was noted that the issue came under the competence of the Department for Special Political Questions, Regional Cooperation, Decolonization and Trusteeship since it had responsibility for coordinating the implementation of the Declaration and Plan of Action. At the same time, it was recognized that the problem of displaced persons fell within the competence of UNDRO. UNDRO informed the meeting that a comprehensive study on displaced persons was being prepared by the Office of the United Nations Director-General for Development and Economic Cooperation in collaboration with UNDRO and other agencies, and would be submitted to the United Nations Economic and Social Council in July 1991 for consideration and action.

27. The ongoing consultations between OAU and UNDRO were noted and encouraged. It was recommended that OAU should strengthen its role in the area of emergency management, especially in facilitating transit and customs clearance formalities for relief assistance in member States.

28. The meeting was informed that, in order to prevent disastrous emergency health situations, efforts were being made jointly between the WHO Pan-African Centre for Emergency Preparedness and Response and the UNHCR Regional Liaison Office for Africa to organize standard training programmes in health management for workers in areas where refugees, returnees and displaced persons were located.

29. Cooperation between OAU and ILO in favour of refugee/displaced women and children was noted, especially concerning the project-package for self-sufficiency jointly prepared in Malawi. Other agencies were requested to contribute to and support such projects.

30. The meeting took note of the proposals made by OAU in the area of information. It was believed that the media and non-governmental organizations should be more involved in the different forums organized on the question of refugees and displaced persons. When possible, serious consideration should be given to organize visits of "public opinion makers", such as the media, non-governmental organizations and members of Parliament, to the areas affected by the problem of refugees and displaced persons in Africa. It was noted that in Africa local populations had always welcomed and taken care of refugees or displaced persons before international assistance arrived. Participants in the meeting believed that material support should

also go to local populations in the affected areas in order to preserve the spirit of hospitality prevailing on the continent.

31. The meeting also took note of the steps taken by OAU for the review of the 1969 agreement between OAU and UNHCR and urged the promotion of more cooperation agreements between the United Nations system and OAU. In this respect, the meeting recommended that United Nations agencies and OAU should increase their contacts whenever possible, and appoint focal points in charge of regular consultations and monitoring matters of common interest. WFP and UNDRO, in particular, expressed interest in establishing similar cooperation agreements with OAU.

32. The meeting reiterated the necessity of doubling efforts to implement the recommendations adopted in April 1990. For this purpose, it was agreed that inter-agency meetings should take place every two years to follow-up on previous decisions and ensure better implementation.

33. In addition, the meeting considered and endorsed the following recommendations submitted by OAU on the subject:

(a) A forum should be found for dialogue on the need for burden-sharing, international solidarity and the root-causes of refugees and displaced persons among selected host countries, donors, pertinent United Nations agencies and OAU;

(b) There was need for public information networks of host Governments and the United Nations, OAU and non-governmental organization communities to tilt public opinion in favour of refugees and displaced persons in order to help in mobilizing additional resources for refugee aid and development, as well as to help bring about the early elimination of the root-causes of the problem;

(c) With regard to the follow-up on the implementation of the Oslo Plan of Action, OAU had proposed the need to hold such meeting to the Steering Committee of the International Conference on the Plight of Refugees, Returnees and Displaced Persons in Southern Africa. OAU intended to hold consultations with all concerned, with a view to implementing this recommendation;

(d) Part of the unspent balance from SARRED account, which was currently being held in the United Nations General Account in New York, should be made available to OAU to finance some of OAU/ILO projects in favour of refugees in Malawi;

(e) Continued collaboration between OAU and UNHCR on the repatriation of South African refugees in particular, and the refugee situation on the continent in general; and regular meetings between the two secretariats on these issues should be encouraged.

D. Environment and development

1. General

34. The meeting stressed that the increasing importance of environment and sutainable development in the 1990s would pose challenges to which OAU would have to respond with the assistance of all the relevant agencies of the United Nations system, particularly as it prepared for the African Year for the Environment (1991) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development (Brazil, 1992). The United Nations system would also need the catalytic and political support role of OAU for a more effective implementation of its programmes for the benefit of member States. It underscored the increasing recognition of the close relationship between population, environment and development, including the role of women and youth.

35. The meeting further observed that apart from the regular programme of work of the consulting parties, activities that result from the implementation of resolutions of the legislative organs of the United Nations system and OAU require more resources than normally foreseen. Moreover, duplication of activities, particularly within the United Nations system, tended to reduce the benefits that could be derived from the available resources.

2. Implementation of the recommendations agreed to in April 1990

36. It was noted that the creation and enhancement of environmental awareness, particularly with regard to the OAU Conference on Environment and Development held at Bamako from 28 to 30 January 1991, the African Environment Year (1991) and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development to be held in 1992, were a priority concern.

37. Owing to resource constraints, it had not been possible to address all the areas identified for cooperation with the United Nations system. One of the more constraining elements was the inadequacy of manpower resources within the Environment Affairs Section of OAU. During the period under review, however, that Section received substantial support from several United Nations agencies in the final implementation of OAU resolutions CM/Res.1153 (XLVIII), CM/Res.1199 (XLIX), CM/Res.1225 (L) and AHG/Res.182 (XXI).

38. Within this framework, UNEP undertook to pursue its cooperation with OAU in implementing the Programme of Action of the Conference of African Ministers of Environment, as well as in drafting the African Convention on Toxic Wastes. OAU also received financial contributions from UNEP, FAO, WMO, UNFPA and WHO for the Conference held at Bamako. ECA participated in drafting the African Convention on Toxic Wastes, served as a member of the joint OAU/ECA secretariat of the Conference and was a partner in the preparation of 1991 - The African Year of the Environment.

39. With regard to the declaration of 1991 as African Year of the Environment, cooperation had been forthcoming from UNEP and ECA, especially

from the Environment Unit of ECA. The African Year of the Environment would be an important contribution to the preparation in Africa for the forthcoming United Nations Conference on Environment and Development. Consequently, programmes and activities both at the regional and national levels were drawn up and distributed to member States. A compilation of all OAU resolutions on environment was being prepared and would be distributed to all United Nations agencies as soon as it was completed.

40. Furthermore, some OAU projects, such as the Fouta Djallon Biological Integrated project, the Strengthening of Vaccine Production and the International Hydrogeological Map of Africa project, continue to benefit from the cooperation of the United Nations system.

3. Proposals for the implementation of the cooperation programmes during 1991-1992

41. With regard to the 1991-1992 period, areas that had not been addressed would receive necessary attention. However, it was in the area of generating public awareness on environment and development that cooperation between the United Nations and OAU would be needed, particularly for the ratification of the Bamako Commitment on Environment and Development. Another area that would be addressed was environment capability development and strengthening within OAU secretariat and its specialized agencies.

42. The meeting recommended that information on the organizational structure and activities of the United Nations system and OAU in the different fields should be made readily available to each other. To this end, it was recommended that steps should be taken to designate focal points.

43. It was suggested that the areas of collaboration between the United Nations and OAU should be expanded to include the built environment; health for development; population, environment and development, including women and the child.

44. Owing to the increased momentum of activities as a result of the preparations for both an African economic community and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development, it was agreed that the focus of activities should be geared towards assistance by the United Nations system to the following activities:

(a) Drafting the African economic community protocols on the environment and other technical support;

(b) Sensitization activities for both the African economic community and the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(c) Preparation of country reports for the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(d) Attendance at preparatory meetings of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(e) Participation in the negotiation of conventions of the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development and related declarations;

(f) Attendance at the United Nations Conference on Environment and Development;

(g) Ensuring that the Global Environment Facility took into full account the specific needs of the region.

45. Furthermore, in anticipation of the activities outlined above and considering the importance of subregional actions on issues of population, the environment and development, the United Nations system should seriously consider taking steps to establish stronger links with subregional economic groupings through OAU with a view to facilitating the identification, formulation, implementation, monitoring and evaluation of programmes and projects at the subregional level.

46. The United Nations system, particularly ECA, Habitat, UNDP, UNEP, UNFPA, UNESCO, UNICEF, WHO and WMO, should give serious consideration to assisting in strengthening the capabilities of the Environment Affairs Section of OAU secretariat, as recommended by the Bamako Conference. OAU should continue to provide political support to the activities of the United Nations system, particularly in sensitizing African leaders to the need for environmental awareness.

E. Science and technology

1. Review of cooperation

47. OAU briefed the meeting on what was implemented during 1990 within the framework of its cooperation with the United Nations system, particularly with WIPO, IAEA, WMO, ECA and UNESCO. It was emphasized that OAU endorsed the priorities that emanated from the meeting organized by UNESCO's Regional Office for Science and Technology in Africa, held at Nairobi in September 1990, regarding strengthening of basic science education and research; science and technology and human resources; development of expertise in bio-technology and materials science; manufacture and maintenance of science and technology equipment; management of science and technology, including science and technology information; integration of science and technology into the productive sectors particularly for rural development; natural resources and environment; technical support for, and harmonization of, science and technology programmes and activities of regional non-governmental organizations.

48. The areas of priority in science and technology conformed to the Lagos Plan of Action, the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic

Recovery and Development 1986-1990 (UNPAAERD), the Special Programme of Assistance to Africa, the recommendation of the Second Conference of Ministers Responsible for the Application of Science and Technology to Development in Africa (CASTAFRICA II) and the conclusions of the First and Second Congresses of African Scientists, as reflected in the UNESCO document Priority Africa, in which UNESCO elaborated on its activities in its proposed programme of action.

49. OAU reported that UNIDO had embarked on a national programme for the Second Industrial Development Decade for Africa (IDDA) to formulate political and strategic pre-programmes for industrial development in Africa, based on the level of development, and the availability of resources and capabilities according to priorities and social and political aspirations. The preliminary drafts of all the national programmes had already been completed and circulated to both OAU and ECA for comments. Subregional meetings had taken place in northern Africa to focus on the subregional programmes. The regional meeting of IDDA would be at Dakar and a final approval of the regional programme of IDDA was expected to be submitted to the Assembly of the OAU Heads of State and Government.

50. In accordance with the draft orientation of the fifth Regional Programme for Africa (1992-1996), science and technology was one of the priority programme areas identified by UNDP. The Regional Programme would continue to support programmes for harmonizing technology policies and strengthening efforts in research, development and commercialization.

2. Conclusions and recommendations

51. Concerning the three-year programme of activities (1992-1994) envisaged by the African Rehabilitation Institute, the meeting resolved that the Institute should contact the relevant United Nations agencies through OAU to seek financial and technical assistance to cover professional rehabilitation, skills development and maintenance courses, training of trainees courses, seminars on rehabilitation for senior-level policy makers, development of appropriate technology in rehabilitation of disabled persons, and research on prevalence and incidence of disability in African countries. It was also agreed that the Institute would request that UNESCO, particularly under "Priority Africa", assist in elaborating and popularizing its activities.

52. The meeting agreed on the priority areas identified by UNESCO, as contained in the conclusions of the meeting held at Nairobi in September 1990, and in "Priority Africa". It was the view of the meeting that due attention should be paid to establishing linkages between research and users.

53. WIPO underlined, inter alia, the importance of industrial property and the promotion of technological innovation. In this connection, it was noted that an OAU/WIPO gold medal award ceremony to encourage African inventors and innovations would take place during the twenty-seventh ordinary session of the Assembly of Heads of State and Government of OAU, to be held in Abuja,

Nigeria, from 3 to 5 June 1991. OAU made special reference to the eighth session of the African Scientific Council.

54. Concerning the issue of the preparation of the protocols on science and technology to be annexed to the treaty establishing an African economic community, the meeting proposed that OAU call for preparatory in-depth meetings with the United Nations agencies and other concerned institutions to elaborate on the different areas of the protocols.

55. The meeting expressed the wish that the UNDP fifth cycle should aspire to introduce the necessary linkages between the country programmes and subregional and regional levels for greater articulation of the objectives of the proposed African economic community.

56. The meeting called upon the United Nations system to consider the integration of the relevant United Nations Decades concerning Africa with the multisectoral and interdisciplinary objectives of the proposed African economic community. To this end, the meeting recommended the setting up of a task force for science and technology.

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COOPERATION BETWEEN THE UNITED NATIONS AND THE ORGANIZATION OF AFRICAN UNITY

Report of the Secretary-General

Addendum

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COOPERATION IN THE FIELD OF ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat

1. The Department of Technical Cooperation for Development of the Secretariat expenditures in Africa in 1990 continued to be the largest among the various regions. Programme delivery totalled $US 76 million, compared with $US 67 million in 1989, and represented 42 per cent of the total.

2. In the field of natural resources, the Department has implemented $US 1.2 million worth of projects in 1990 in Africa in geothermal energy, energy conservation, petroleum investment promotion and electricity. The countries benefiting from this assistance include Chad, Egypt, Ethiopia, Ghana, Kenya, the Sudan and Zambia. In the mineral sector, the Department implements (or assists in the implementation of) a substantial level of technical cooperation projects in African countries. During 1990, these projects accounted for expenditures totalling $US 11.5 million and spanned the full range of substantive fields. The Department also actively prepares and conducts specialized regional seminars. The participation of the Organization of African Unity (OAU) and the Economic Commission for Africa (ECA) will be sought both for their technical financial inputs.

3. In view of the importance of statistical data for economic and social planning, the Department has assisted several African countries in conducting censuses, and in analysing the resultant data.

4. The training of nationals in various sectors, including a focus on computers, is a key instrument by which the Department has tried to build up national capabilities in Africa. Training is an integral part of all projects executed by the Department. In addition, the Department's continued involvement in the implementation of the United Nations Educational and Training Programme for Southern Africa (UNETPSA) has provided training for more than 1,000 Namibians since 1982.

5. The Department has also participated in the United Nations Programme of Action for African Economic Recovery and Development, 1986-1990 (UNPAAERD). In 1990, as a part of this programme, it began an innovative project, entitled African Initiative, funded jointly by the Government of Japan and the United Nations Regular Programme of Technical Cooperation. The project aims at enhancing the human, institutional, technical and managerial capacities of African countries in development planning within an interregional context.

6. Another important activity is the Department's role in the implementation of the Special Action Programme for Administration and Management (SAPAM) in Africa. In an effort to enhance the capacity of African Governments for policy formulation and management, the Department, in collaboration with nine African countries, launched a project to study the impact of the size of civil

service structures on their efficiency and effectiveness. The object of this study is to develop methodologies and instruments that African Governments can use for analysis and decision-making on the optimal size of the public sector.